

not want to go there while inefficient officers are working there for many years. I would like to know whether able officers would be sent in these areas in place of these inefficient officers.

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : So far as the matter of inefficiency is concerned. If any specific complaint regarding the functioning is received, enquiry would be conducted. The cases related to the working period and transfer of the individuals would be considered at the time of general transfer. As regards your complaint that T.V. has eroded the popularity of radio, in this regard I would like to state that it is not correct rather its popularity is increasing. People do listen to radio as well as watch television.

12.00 hrs.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am asking only one question. Due to the popularity of Doordarshan big film producers are producing Doordarshan Serials. Whether Ministry is considering to provide some concession in levying fee and time limit to these serial producers who are competing with these producers?

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : It is not a question of new and old. Whoever produces a good programme, time would be allotted to him (Interruptions) it is but natural. Money will have to be paid (Interruptions)

Sponsored rate would be charged as per norms. It is not a question of producer being new or old. Everything is decided on the basis of the quality of the programme.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Committee on Restructuring of the Airlines

*267. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee set up by the Government to look into the restructuring of the country's airlines has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the recommendations made by the Committee and reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed by the Government to make the two state owned airlines profit oriented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) A Committee of experts was set up to examine the reasons for losses in Indian Airlines and to formulate a turn around strategy. The Committee has since submitted its report. It has recommended a turn around

strategy and made the following important recommendations:

- (i) Financial restructuring, which includes capital injection of Rs. 922 crores in the form of compensation, subordinated loan, equity and contribution by Indian Airlines and its employees.
- (ii) Fleet Planning.
- (iii) Route Rationalisation.
- (iv) Organisational Restructuring.
- (v) Human Resource Management.

The recommendations are being examined.

(c) Air India and Indian Airlines are taking steps to improve their product, image and on time performance to attract more passengers and to increase revenue.

Child Labour

*268. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY :
SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent Supreme Court judgement ordering ban on employment of Child Labour in hazardous industries and mines only postulates the pious directions of the framers of the Constitution of India articulated in Article 24 and the wishes of the Parliament as embodied in the Child Labour (Prevention and Regulation) Act, 1986;

(b) if not, the further directions given by the Apex Court in this judgement to effectively enforce the ban; and

(c) the steps being taken to carry out the directions of Supreme Court to ban child labour in hazardous jobs?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India in their judgement dated 10.12.96, apart from referring to Article 24 of the Constitution of India and the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986, has given certain directions regarding the manner in which the children working in the hazardous occupations are to be withdrawn from working and rehabilitated as also the manner in which the working conditions of the children working in non-hazardous occupations are to be regulated and improved upon. The directions given in the judgement include payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 20,000/- by the offending employers for every child employed in hazardous occupations in contravention of the provisions of the Act, giving alternative employment to an adult member of the family in place of the child withdrawn from such hazardous occupations, provision of education in a suitable institution for the children so withdrawn, creation of Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund etc.